

REMARKS

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

The drawings have been objected to under 37 C.F.R. 1.83(a) for failing to show every feature of the invention specified in claims 8-9 and 13-14. Claims 8 and 9 have been canceled thereby obviating the rejection to these claims. Applicants respectfully submit that spherical and toroidal surfaces are specific form of convex and concave surfaces. Pursuant to the Examiner's kind suggestion, applicants submit herewith new Figs. 10A-10C without adding new matter which show concave, convex, spherical and toroidal surfaces of the light pipes for use with an embodiment of the invention. Support for new Figs. 10A-10C are found in paragraphs 0035 and 0036 on page 11, and paragraph 0039 on page 12 of the specification.

Claims 1, 7-11, 17, 19, 21, 22 and 31-39 have been canceled without prejudice to represent the claims in a continuation application, and claims 2, 12, 13, 16, 18, 20, 22, 23 and 28 have been amended herein. Accordingly, claims 2-6, 12-16, 18,, 20 and 23-30 are presented for consideration.

Claims 11, 16, 21 and 35 have been objected to because of various informalities. Claims 11, 21 and 35 have been canceled without prejudice, thereby obviating the objection to these claims. Claim 16 have been amended without adding new matter pursuant to Examiner's kind suggestion. It is respectfully requested that the objection to claim 16 be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 17, 19, 34, 35, 38 and 39 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by IMAI et al. (JP 63197913A). Claims 7-11, 21, 22, 31-33 and 36 have been rejected as being unpatentable over IMAI et al. in view of Levis et al. (US 5,884,991). Claim 37 have been rejected as being unpatentable over IMAI et al. in view of Perkins et al. (US 6,288,840). In order to expedite the prosecution and without commenting on the appropriateness of these rejections, applicants wish to accept the allowed claims 2-6, 12-16, 18, 20 and 23-30 and cancel claims 1, 7-11, 17, 19, 21, 22 and 31-39 without prejudice to represent the claims in a continuation application to prosecute these rejected claims. Accordingly, claims 2, 12, 13, 18, 20, 22, 23 and 28 have been rewritten pursuant to the Examiner's kind suggestion in good-faith either in independent form or to no longer depended upon a rejected base claim. Thus, claims 2-6, 12-16, 18, 20 and 23-30 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Applicants will file a continuation application to prosecute rejected claims 1, 7-11, 17, 19, 21, 22, and 31-39.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-0624, under Order No. WAVIEN 223-CIP (10504550) from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Respectfully Submitted,

By


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